



**NORTH DAKOTA**  
DEPARTMENT *of* HEALTH

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## NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release:  
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### **State Health Department Coordinates Deployment of Federal Medical Stations**

BISMARCK, N.D. – At the direction of Gov. John Hoeven, the North Dakota Department of Health is coordinating the deployment of two Federal Medical Stations (FMS) that will receive and care for people with special medical needs in the event they are evacuated from Fargo, according to State Health Officer Terry Dwelle, M.D.

As part of the state's comprehensive response to flooding, the Department of Health requested the FMS from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. One station is located at Jamestown College in Jamestown, N.D., and the other is located at the University of Mary in Bismarck, N.D. People who don't need hospitalization but who have medical issues and need to be supported will be cared for at the Federal Medical Stations.

"Many people with special medical needs are not in hospitals or nursing homes but are cared for at home," Dwelle said. "They may rely on home health care or are dependent on oxygen or have other medical needs. In an emergency, it's important that they continue to receive care if they need to evacuate. These medical stations will help us meet their needs."

If people with special medical needs choose to evacuate now from Fargo, they should go to the Schollander Pavillion at the Red River Valley Fairgrounds in West Fargo, where a federal medical team will assess each person's medical needs. From there, individuals will be sent to either the Jamestown FMS or the Bismarck FMS.

The sites will be staffed by federal medical personnel sent with the FMS, as well as volunteer medical personnel from North Dakota. Both sites are expected to be operational sometime Sunday, March 29, 2009.

For more information, please contact Loreeta Canton or Stacy Eberl at 701.328.1312.

-- 30 --

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